



DIVERSITY

Associate Leadership Institute Spotlight



Marcie Cleary, ALI '18
Partner
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A LAWYER?

I read a profile of a Black woman entertainment lawyer in a magazine when I was in high school, and I was immediately interested in the career. As a teenager, I was very involved in the NAACP as a student leader, where I learned how to advocate for others, and growing up in Memphis, Tennessee, a city rich in traditions, I was raised to appreciate the influence of entertainers. A career advocating for artists seemed like a perfect way to merge my values with my interests.

YOU'RE A NEW ADDITION TO THE CRAYON BOX, WHAT COLOR WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?

Rainbow sherbet. That is the best flavor in Baskin Robbins and it does not get its proper credit. The colors are as beautiful as it tastes.

WHAT WAS ONE KEY TAKEAWAY FROM YOUR ALI EXPERIENCE?

I learned not only the importance of mentors, which we hear all the time, but also the significance of having a sponsor. A sponsor strategically helps support the promotion of an attorney by giving the attorney guidance on business development, making sure the attorney is given opportunities to grow the attorney's skill set, and advocating for the attorney internally at their law firm or company. Sponsors are crucial in making sure attorneys are promoted to the next level in their career.

PIZZA WITH A FORK AND KNIFE?

No, unless you are dressed up in a white shirt or white blouse and are too ashamed to use your napkin as a bib. That is the only excuse.

FAVORITE LANDMARK:

The Apollo Theater in Harlem

@nycbardiversity  